



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No.: Q77313

Shinya YAMASAKI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/665,148

Group Art Unit: 1746

Confirmation No.: 5798

Examiner: (not yet assigned)

Filed: September 22, 2003

For: ETCHING AND CLEANING METHODS  
AND ETCHING AND CLEANING  
APPARATUS USED THEREFOR

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith, with the exception of those noted that were submitted previously in an Information Disclosure Statement in this application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 08-78378, dated March 22, 1996 (this reference was submitted previously in the Information Disclosure Statement dated September 22, 2003).

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/665,148

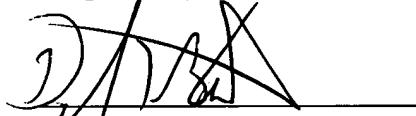
Atty. Docket No.: Q77313

portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the Japanese Patent Office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE  
23373  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 11, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/665,148

Atty. Docket No.: Q77313

2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 04-311034, dated November 2, 1992.

3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 10-242114, dated September 11, 1998

(this reference was submitted previously in the Information Disclosure Statement dated September 22, 2003).

4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 05-226808, dated September 3, 1993

(this reference was submitted previously in the Information Disclosure Statement dated September 22, 2003).

5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 10-223593, dated August 21, 1998.

6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 02-197126, dated August 3, 1990 (this reference was submitted previously in the Information Disclosure Statement dated September 22, 2003).

7. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 05-23530, dated March 26, 1993.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from the Japanese Patent Office dated December 16, 2003 with an English translation of the pertinent

<p>Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p>		<p><i>Complete if Known</i></p>	
		Application Number	10/665,148
		Confirmation Number	5798
		Filing Date	September 22, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Shinya YAMASAKI
		Art Unit	1746
		Examiner Name	(not yet assigned)
		Attorney Docket Number	Q77313

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date Considered \_\_\_\_\_

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached